

CLAIMS

1. Mask apparatus including a generally ring-shape sealing assembly (1) adapted to be retained with the head and to seal around at least the mouth of a user, and a gas inlet (33) for supplying gas to the apparatus, characterised in that the sealing assembly (1) has a central opening (2) located in the region of the mouth, and a removable closure (30) for securing with the central opening (2), and that the gas inlet (33) is mounted with the closure (30).
2. Mask apparatus according to Claim 1, characterised in that the closure includes a plate (30).
3. Mask apparatus according to Claim 2, characterised in that the plate (30) is curved and rigid.
4. Mask apparatus according to any one of the preceding claims, characterised in that the closure (30) is a push fit in the central opening (2).
5. Mask apparatus according to any one of the preceding claims, characterised in that the sealing assembly (1) includes a shelf (4) adapted to extend beneath the nose of the user.
6. Mask apparatus according to Claim 5, characterised in that the shelf (4) supports a compliant substance (7) adapted to seal around the nostrils.
7. Mask apparatus according to Claim 5 or 6, characterised in that the shelf has (4) a passage (6, 8) therethrough adapted to supply gas to the user's nose.
8. Mask apparatus according to any one of the preceding claims, characterised in that the apparatus includes a harness (20) secured with the sealing assembly (1) and adapted to extend around the head of the user.

9. Mask apparatus according to Claim 8, characterised in that the harness (20) comprises two triangular portions (21) encircling respective ears of the user, that both portions (21) have a rear limb (25) extending substantially vertically at the rear of the user's head, and that the rear limbs (25) are securable with one another at the rear of the user's head.
10. Mask apparatus according to any one of the preceding claims, characterised in that the sealing assembly (1) includes an adhesive extending around its edge (9) to contact the user's skin.